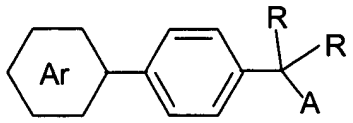
CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (currently amended) A bisaryl derivative of the formula I,

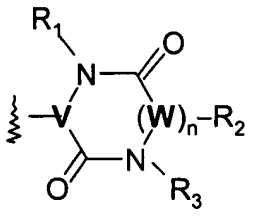


(I)

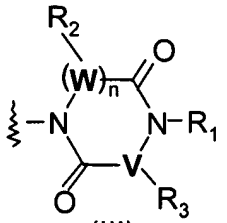
wherein (R,R) is selected from (H,H), O, (H,CH_3), (H,OH) and (H,CN);

and wherein

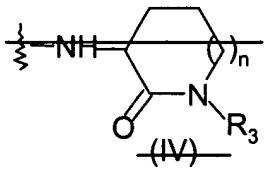
A is a group of formula ~~**II, III, IV or V**~~ **II or III**:



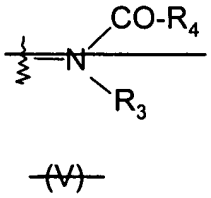
(II)



(III)



~~(IV)~~



~~(V)~~

wherein

n is 0, 1, or 2;

R_1 is H, (C_1-C_6)alkyl;

V is CH or N;

W is CR_2' or N if n is 1 and **W** is CR_2' if n is 2;

and **V** and **W** are not both N;

R_2 and R_2' are independently H, (C_1-C_4)alkyl or $-CH_2OH$;

R_3 is (C_1-C_{15}) alkyl, which may optionally be branched or unbranched and optionally may contain a double or triple bond at one or more positions,

or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_q-O-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, $-(CH_2)_q-(C_3-C_8)$cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_q-$tetrahydrofuranyl, $-(CH_2)_q-$thiophenyl, $-(CH_2)_q-$1,4-benzodioxol-6-yl, $-(CH_2)_q-$phenyl, $-(CH_2)_q-S-$phenyl, or $-(CH_2)_q-O-$phenyl, wherein phenyl may be optionally substituted with $(C_1–C_6)$alkyl, (C_1-C_4) alkoxy, halogen, amino, or dimethylamino, wherein q is an integer of 1-10;

or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_x-C(O)-NR_5-R_6$ wherein

R_5 is H or $(C_1–C_4)$alkyl,

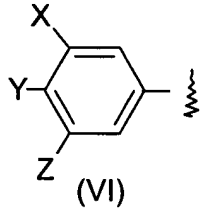
R_6 is $-(CH_2)_p-O-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, $-(CH_2)_p-(C_3-C_8)$cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_p-$tetrahydrofuranyl, $-(CH_2)_p-$thiophenyl, $-(CH_2)_p-$1,4-benzodioxol-6-yl, $-(CH_2)_p-$phenyl, $-(CH_2)_p-S-$phenyl, or $-(CH_2)_p-O-$phenyl, wherein phenyl may be optionally substituted with $(C_1–C_6)$alkyl, (C_1-C_4) alkoxy, halogen, amino, or dimethylamino,

wherein x and p are integers, and x is ≥ 1 and $p > 1$ and $x + p = 3 - 8$;

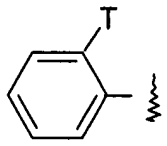
or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_y-C(O)-NR_5-(C_1-C_{12})$alkyl, wherein the alkyl moiety may optionally be branched or unbranched and optionally may contain a double or triple bond at one or more positions, R_5 is as previously defined, y is an integer of 1-12 and the maximal chain length of R_3 is 15 atoms;

~~R_4 is (C_2-C_6)n-alkyl or (C_2-C_6)n-alkoxy;~~

and Ar is of the formula VI or VII:



(VI)



(VII)

wherein

(i) X, Y, Z are independently H, OH, (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, provided that at least one of X, Y and Z is not H; or

(ii) two of X, Y and Z are H, the other being –CHO, $–CH_2-NR_7-CH_2-R_8$ or $-CH_2-NR_7-CO-R_8$, wherein R_7 is H, $(C_1-C_6)n$-alkyl or $-(CH_2)_m-O-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl; R_8 is (C_1-C_4)alkyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy-(C_1-C_4)alkyl, amino or (C_1-C_4)alkyl-NH-; and m being 2-6; and

(iii) T is $-CH_2-NR_9R_{10}$, wherein R_9 is $(C_1-C_6)n$-alkyl and R_{10} is (C_2-C_5)acyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxycarbonyl or (C_1-C_4)alkyl-NH-CO-.

2. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 1, wherein (R,R) is (H,H).

3. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 2, wherein A is a group of formula II.

4. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 3, wherein

n is 0, 1, or 2;

R_1 is (C_1-C_4)alkyl;

V is CH;

W is CR_2';

R_2 and R_2' are independently H, (C_1-C_4)alkyl or $-CH_2OH$; and

R_3 is (C_1-C_{15}) alkyl, which may optionally be branched or unbranched and optionally may contain a double or triple bond at one or more positions,

or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_q-O-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, $-(CH_2)_q-(C_3-C_8)$cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_q$-phenyl, $-(CH_2)_q$-S-phenyl, or $-(CH_2)_q-O$-phenyl, wherein phenyl may be optionally substituted with (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_4) alkoxy, halogen, amino, or dimethylamino, wherein q is an integer of 1-10;

or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_x-C(O)-NR_5-R_6$, wherein

R_5 is H or $(C_1–C_4)$alkyl,

R_6 is $-(CH_2)_p-O-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, $-(CH_2)_p-(C_3-C_8)$cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_p$-phenyl, $-(CH_2)_p$-S-phenyl, or $-(CH_2)_p-O$-phenyl, wherein phenyl may be optionally substituted with $(C_1–C_6)$alkyl, (C_1-C_4) alkoxy, halogen, amino, or dimethylamino,

wherein x and p are integers, and x is ≥ 1 and $p > 1$ and $x + p = 3 - 8$;

or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_y-C(O)-NR_5-(C_1-C_{12})$alkyl, wherein the alkyl moiety may optionally be branched or unbranched and optionally may contain a double or triple bond at one or more positions, R_5 is as previously defined, y is an integer of 1-12 and the maximal chain length of R_3 is 15 atoms.

5. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 4, wherein n is 1; R_1 is methyl; and R_2 and R_2' are independently H or methyl; and Ar is of the formula VI.

6. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 5, wherein R_3 is $-CH_2-C(O)-NH-(CH_2)_p-$phenyl, wherein p is 2-4 and phenyl may be optionally substituted; and Ar is of the formula VI, wherein X, Y and Z are all methoxy, or X and Z are methoxy and Y is OH, or X and Y are both H, and Z is $-CH_2-NR_7-CO-R_8$.

7. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 5, wherein R_3 is (C_1-C_{15})alkyl, which may optionally be branched or unbranched and optionally may contain a double or triple bond at one or more positions, or R_3 is $-(CH_2)_q-O-(C_1-C_4)$alkyl, $-(CH_2)_q-(C_3-C_8)$cycloalkyl, $-(CH_2)_q$-phenyl, $-(CH_2)_q-S$-phenyl, or $-(CH_2)_q-O$-phenyl, wherein phenyl may be optionally substituted with (C_1-C_6)alkyl, (C_1-C_4)alkoxy, halogen, amino, or dimethylamino; and Ar is of the formula VI, wherein X, Y and Z are all methoxy, or X and Z are methoxy and Y is OH, or X and Y are both H, and Z is $-CH_2-NR_7-CO-R_8$.

8. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 7, wherein R_2 is methyl and R_2' is H or R_2 and R_2' are both methyl; R_3 is an unbranched (C_7-C_{10}) *n*-alkyl, optionally containing one or two double bonds, or R_3 is selected from $-(CH_2)_r-CH(CH_3)_2$, $-(CH_2)_r$-phenyl and $-(CH_2)_t-S$-phenyl, r being 5-8 and t being 4-7; and Ar is of the formula VI, wherein X, Y and Z are all methoxy, or X and Z are methoxy and Y is OH, or X and Y are both H, and Z is $-CH_2-NR_7-CO-R_8$, wherein R_7 is *n*-butyl or $-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$ and R_8 is $-CH_3$, $-NHCH_3$ or $-OCH_3$.

9. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 8, wherein R_3 is *n*-octyl and Ar is of the formula VI, wherein X and Y are both H, and Z is $-CH_2-NR_7-CO-R_8$, wherein R_7 is *n*-butyl or $-(CH_2)_2-O-CH_3$ and R_8 is $-CH_3$, $-NHCH_3$ or $-OCH_3$.

10. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 4, wherein n is 1, R_1 is *n*-butyl, R_2 and R_2' are independently H or methyl and R_3 is $-CH_2-CO-NH-(C_4-C_{10})$alkyl, wherein the alkyl

moiety is branched or unbranched, or $-CH_2$-CO-NH-R_6, wherein R_6 is -$(CH_2)_p$-cyclohexyl or -$(CH_2)_p$-phenyl, the phenyl being optionally substituted with (C_1-C_6)alkyl or halogen and p being 2-4.

11. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 2, wherein A is a group of the formula III.

12. (original) The bisaryl derivative of claim 11, wherein n is 0 or 1, R_1 is H or methyl, **V** is CH, **W** is CH, R_2 is H or methyl, R_3 is (C_4-C_{10})*n*-alkyl or -CH_2-C(O)-NH-(C_4-C_{10})*n*-alkyl, and Ar is of the formula VI, wherein X, Y and Z are methoxy.

13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)

15. (canceled)
16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (canceled)

19. (original) A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

20. (canceled)

21. (canceled)